Davenports 2021



Lynne

Thanksgiving was held in New Bern last year and we had Blair, Karen, Jeffrey, the Rhems, and Millers. We celebrated again this year in New Bern at my house with 21!! Cameron was back from Japan after being gone for 3 years.

Blair and I both had COVID in December so had to postpone the Christmas holiday a week. Luckily we had a mild case and now have been fully vaccinated. Anna, Blair, Karen and Jeffery were all here to celebrate the week after. Christmas.

Blair moved to Raleigh to live with Emily in January and got a job there in June. She is hoping to get an apartment there by herself. She had some friends here for Memorial Day weekend- a "beach" weekend for her friends! We also got together for her birthday and Halloween in October in Raleigh.

Because of COVID, we were unable to do a cruise this year so a few of us went to Atlantic Beach for a weekend the end of January. It was cold and rainy but fun being "away".

February found Sue and me in Hilton Head for a long weekend with some friends who we knew from the Hilton Head days. I had some tire problems on my car so figured it was time to update my car. I ended up buying a car the same model – just four years newer (a Lincoln MKX) – when I returned from the trip.

In May several of us went to Key West. Sue and Stuart told us about a place to stay and we booked the Amsterdam Curry Mansion Inn. It was a great location as we could walk everywhere. We kayaked, did the sites, and relaxed.

In June I flew to New Hartford to celebrate my birthday with Sue — we were celebrating our Medicare birthdays – 65!!!

I made several trips to Rensselaerville this year. One was in June and one the end of July for MillerFest.

I also rented a van in August and Blair and I took four of the five grandchildren to Rensselaerville for the week. "Grandma camp" included pickleball, tennis, a visit to a water park, the Saratoga horse races, hike up the falls and paddle-boarding at the lake.

I went to Rensselaerville again in mid August with some girlfriends to see the James Taylor and Jackson Brown concert. We toured the Woodstock museum and the concert was held at Bethel Woods – homeplace of Wookstock. We also did the sites in R'ville and went to the Saratoga horse races again. Still no big winner betting on the horses, but we all had fun!

In September, we had our Jeans and Pearls party on the river with a bunch of girlfriends; it felt good to get together again as things have opened up a little.

October was the 12th annual Craven Cancer Classic golf tournament. The Haseley clan gathered in New Bern and Allan's team and my team won – I promise it was not rigged!!

The same weekend was the Alpha Chi reunion downtown New Bern. About 15 girls stayed downtown – many we have not seen since college days. Sue and I hosted a BBQ at my house and took the girls for a boat ride. We played pickleball in my driveway and enjoyed catching up after 40+ years.

In November I took a trip to Seaside and Watercolor near Destin, FL with the "Hilton Head Girls". It was a quick long weekend and a little chilly but we had fun visiting, shopping and of course eating and drinking!

Add in a few weddings and funerals and that about sums up my year.

I still continue to walk, play tennis and golf, do pilates, and have tried to play pickleball when I can. Allan gave me a net and we have a court set up in the driveway!

Real estate was busy the first part of the year but now it is hard to find things to sell. It is such a seller's market that people are staying put since they do not want to sell high and buy high. I still do a little private tutoring.

Scottie and family moved to New Bern in June and they are renting across the street from me. I enjoy seeing them and also enjoy going out in their pontoon boat, which they keep on the river behind my house.

I contracted for a new dock to be built since it was ruined in Hurricane Florence. But the process has been slow!

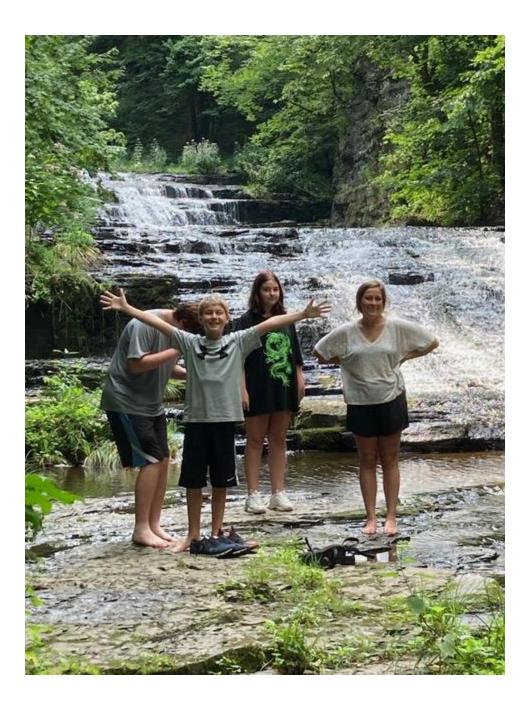
I wish everyone a safe and especially "HEALTHY" holiday season and New Year.































Blair

Happy Haseley Heralds! Another year of trips, friends and family time. Let's get into it.

In November I went to Boone to celebrate Tyler's birthday with him and his family. The next week my friend Belva and I started our disco ball making company, The Disco Chics! We make disco balls of various sizes out of recycled styrofoam. You can find us on Instagram @thediscochics.

Nothing too crazy happened in December, until two weeks before Christmas when my mom, Tyler, and I got COVID. Tyler had been visiting before the holidays and the day before he was supposed to leave my mom tested positive. Next thing we knew the three of us were in quarantine together until Christmas day. We made the most of it by watching Harry Potter and trying new cocktails. Unfortunately, we couldn't taste the cocktails.

Once we recovered from COVID, Tyler and I rang in 2021 in Charlotte with our friends from college. The new year also meant a new move and in February I packed up my belongings and moved into Emily's new house with her in Raleigh. February meant it was full speed ahead for the Flurry Festival. I had been working for the Flurry Festival since October 2020 and on President's Day weekend we had our first virtual Flurry. It was a weekend filled with Zoom workshops and people dancing in their living rooms. All in all everyone was very impressed by how we were able to pull together a fully virtual dance festival.

After I decompressed from the Flurry, I headed to Colorado to visit my friend from high school, Maddie, with our two friends Kate and Addiekate. Little did we know, we were going out at the time of a winter storm! We were supposed to fly out Sunday but because of the storm we didn't get out until Wednesday! Addiekate and I spent our snow-cation exploring Denver. We made it home safe and sound but I definitely had my fix of snow for a long time!

In April I went up to Asheville to celebrate my friend Lauren's birthday with my friends from college, Caitlin, Solana, and Markie. We brewery hopped and hiked the waterfalls in Brevard. The next weekend Drew, Kara, and Tina came down to celebrate Emily's 29th birthday. We had a mermaid and pirate themed party.

In May, my dreams came true and I was FINALLY able to go back to Madrid to get my belongings and have closure. Don't be fooled though, it was not an easy time to get over there. After having to talk to three desk attendants in Raleigh about why I was traveling abroad, I finally made it to Boston just to find out I had the wrong covid test! I was supposed to have a PCR but I had an AG. Luckily they had the same flight out on Monday, so I was able to spend two nights in Boston and get the correct covid test. This ended up being nice because I was able to visit my friend Elle who lives in Worcester, MA. It happened to be Greek Easter when I was visiting so I got to celebrate with her and her family who are all from Greece.

Finally, on Monday I boarded my flight to Spain and made it to Madrid! It was so nice to be back. Even with masks and the curfew, it felt so great to be able to walk the familiar streets of a city I love so much. I stayed with my friend Jason who I've known since college and spent the days re-exploring Madrid and going to my favorite cafes, bars, and parks. I also got to go back to my school and see my bilingual coordinator Charo and my students! During my first week there, the 11 pm curfew was lifted and people were allowed to be out until after midnight. Madrid was celebrating!

A week after I arrived, my friend Emily, Jason, and I headed off to Ibiza for the weekend. We had a blast! The beaches there were beautiful and on the second day, we rented Vespas and drove all over the island. The vespas were hard to get the hang of at first but once I got the feeling it was amazing. After Ibiza, it was back to Madrid! Tyler decided to come join me for my last week there and we rented an Airbnb in Plaza Mayor that had a beautiful rooftop patio that overlooked the Center of Madrid. A few days after he arrived we went up to Miraflores de la Sierra in the mountains outside of Madrid and spent a few days hiking and relaxing.

During my time in Spain, I had an interview for a full-time marketing coordinator position in Raleigh and ended up getting the job. After three weeks in Spain, it was time to head back home and start working. I started my new job at Foundry Commercial on June 1. It is a commercial real estate company in Raleigh with offices all over the south east. I work as a marketing coordinator which means I do a little bit of everything in our marketing department, as well as some graphic design and internal event planning. I've been loving it!

Working full time took a little bit to adjust to, but I was quickly back on the road in July for MillerFest. This year's 11th MillerFest was disco themed. The Disco Chics was an official sponsor. Tyler and I flew up for the quick weekend and had fun listening to music, going to the falls, and spending time in Rensselaerville with everyone.

A week after getting home from MillerFest, I headed right back up to New York for Grandma camp with Ellena, Colleen, William and Everett. It was the kids' first time in Rensselaerville and at first, they were a little bit skeptical due to the number of spiders, but we ended up having a fun week. The highlight for the kids was definitely going to the horse races in Saratoga and betting some funds. (Don't worry we did the betting for them!)

It seems like the end of summer and the beginning of fall had something every weekend! In September, I went camping with my college friends outside of Boone at a spot called Gragg Prong for my friend Capps' birthday. At the end of September, I flew back out to Colorado to visit my best friend Solana who had moved out there with her boyfriend Andrew. It was so fun to see her, especially in her new home that she loves. We went hiking and went to a concert at Red Rocks. It was a quick trip but worth it to get to visit her and spend another weekend in the great state of Colorado.

Finally, it was the best month of the year: October. Not only is it my birthday, but it is also Halloween, football, and officially fall and who doesn't love that. Similar to the rest of my year, October was slammed packed with weekend activities. The first weekend of the month Tyler and I went up to Virginia to go to Busch Gardens with our friends Kate and Hunter. We rode a roller coaster, but mostly went for the Oktoberfest area and beer. The second weekend of October, Aunt Sue, Uncle Stuart, and my mom came to Raleigh and we all went to Dustin Mailloux's wedding.

The following weekend we had an early Halloween and birthday party for Shoji and I at our house. It is never too early to wear Halloween costumes and we had live music too! My friends Grayson and Belva came into town from Charlotte for it and got to see a little bit of Raleigh. The next night for Shoji's birthday we all went to a concert for a band we love called Lake Street Dive. We ended up getting the chance to go into the pit and get close up to the stage! The next weekend was the golf tournament. Tyler and I drove down to New Bern Friday afternoon and went out to dinner with the family. Saturday we played pickleball and went out on Scottie's pontoon. It was nice to be home for a weekend and get to see Scottie, Kim, and the kids.

At the end of the month it was back up to Boone for Halloween and homecoming. This year our friends got two cabins side by side that overlooked the mountains and we're five minutes from downtown. It was great to be back, especially with the people who made my time at App so special. We went to the game Saturday and then had a Halloween party at our cabins. My friends Lily, Callie and I dressed up as Donna and the Dynamos from Mamma Mia! I knew my mom loved this costume.

Sadly, October came to an end after that weekend but luckily the cool air kept on coming through North Carolina. November has been a bit slower of a month but has still been full of quality time with friends and exploring Raleigh. After living with Emily for eight months, I decided it was time to find my own place. At the beginning of December, I will be moving into my own one-bedroom apartment in downtown Raleigh. Emily and I have had so much fun living together but luckily she isn't too far away for wine nights.

I hope everyone has Happy Holidays and a great 2022! Can you believe it is already 2022? I swear it is still 2019!!



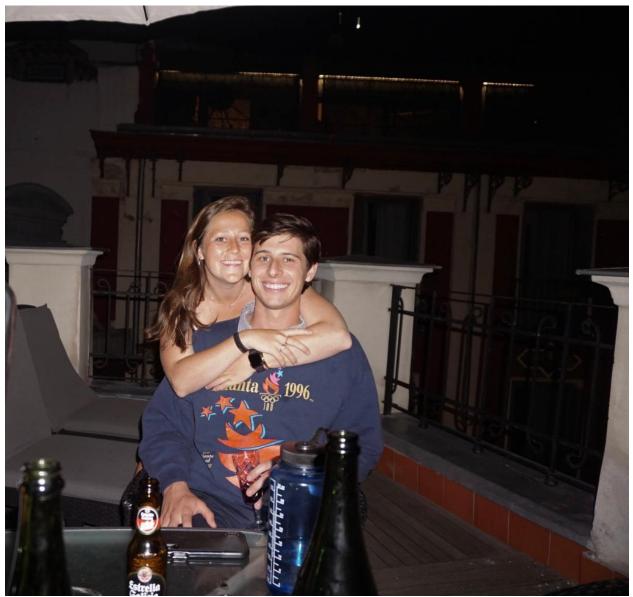
Colorado visiting Solana hiking with her dog, River



Vespas in Ibiza



Restaurant in Madrid



Blair and Tyler in Madrid



Friends in New Bern for Memorial



Friends in New Bern for Memorial



New Years 2021 in Charlotte, NC



Birthday party with Belva (top left), Grayson (top right), Lily (bottom left)



Red Rocks to see Big G

Scottie, Kim, Reese, Colleen, and Everett

What year is it again? Oh right 2021...it started out a bit like deja vu we had kids in virtual school for over a year at this point like most everyone. I had long worked from home but this definitely changed the dynamic a bit. So we started to get a bit antsy and apparently weren't the only ones. Around March we started to discuss what things were important to us as a family. Kim and I had long thought getting a lake house, maybe near a golf course, would be a really great thing to do "someday". After a very brief thought of moving to Austin TX, I was in church one Sunday and New Bern popped in my head clear as day. I went home and chatted with Kim and after some long discussions, pros and cons, and after a couple of days, we revisited. Kim said, "let's do it". That day in April we started making the preparations to move out of the house we built 13 years ago in Clayton, one of the last Dad insulated before he was diagnosed. There were certainly a couple of God Winks along the way but as I'm sure anyone who has moved after being somewhere that long, we needed them. One of them was when we came to New Bern to tell my mom and Lynne that we were moving to New Bern. They were both very excited and Lynne said "guess what? The house across the street is for rent right now and I have the key." We walked right over and signed a lease starting in May and moved in on June 1st. We really love the house and its location as well as the neighborhood itself.

One of the first orders of business, when we decided to move, was to join NBG&CC a place where I spent a large part of my childhood and learned to play golf. We are a stone's throw away so I was really excited to get back to playing after a long hiatus. It's been a great way to meet people and of course, see a lot of people who loved Dad and our family as well as see a lot of old friends who have found themselves back here. The other great attraction was the water and being right across the street from Lynne it is always right at our fingertips. Kim and I love to fish and have been out on a few charters and done some fishing on our own but I think without question our favorite thing has to be sunset cruises on the pontoon up and down the Trent river. It's really a beautiful place and after a hectic summer of getting settled they were a perfect way to end a lot of days. We also celebrated our 21st anniversary and the first in New Bern. We enjoyed dinner on the waterfront at Persimmons and walked around at First Presbyterian where we were married.

Kim was a trooper through everything, especially battling what turned out to be a torn meniscus for a long time, and then had a turn with COVID along with Everett, who bounced back in about 24hrs. It kept Kim down for well over 2 weeks and put off the knee surgery for a bit longer of course. She did finally get in to have it arthroscopically repaired in November and handled the surgery really well and was up and moving in just a few days without much pain. She's rehabbing it on her own and all while keeping our house running and the kids in the right places which is enough rehab in and of itself.

A little about the kids and what they've been up to with such a big move.

Reese turned 18 and started her senior year which is really hard to believe. She will be graduating in December and is trying to figure out what's next. She has her eye on cosmetology which would be a really good field for her.

Colleen is 14 and a freshman at the Epiphany School of Global Studies here in New Bern. Moving from virtual school back into the classroom was definitely an adjustment, not to mention moving to a private school but she has worked really hard and is finding her way each day. She's into reading and writing fan fiction and of course continues to wow us constantly with her creative artwork. This is another area the school is really in tune with which gives her a chance to use her talents and show them off a bit. She's also become interested in playing golf and we will see where that leads in the spring with the school.

Anytime we ask Everett what he thinks about New Bern you get "I LOVE IT!!!" He really loves life and in particular anything that has to do with video games, building things out of paper or cardboard, and says he wants to be an Engineer. He participated in Strive for 35 which is a youth golf program at the club and he's started to find his love for the game too...he also likes trying to make \$5 anytime we see some water he can try and hit it over. For the winter he just started Upwards basketball league with some of his friends he's met playing golf and at school. We got out fishing a couple of times with him too. He went on the charter with Kim and I and he pulled in the most.

All in all, it has been a great move for us as a family, not without ups and downs and challenges but hey it's 2021. We are excited to continue our list of firsts in New Bern through the Christmas season and kick off a New Year in our hometown. Love to you all and here's to a great 2022!





